

REMARKS

1. Formalities

With this amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 2-4, 20, 21 and 23-25. Claims 22 and 26-28 are all the claims pending in the application.

2. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-4, 20, 21 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miura et al. (US 4,846,541) in view of Nieh et al. (US 5,346,600) and Tenhover et al. (US 5,741,403).

Claims 2-4, 20, 21 and 23-25 have been canceled.

3. Allowed Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claim 22 and for indicating that claims 26-28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have rewritten claims 26-28 in independent form and submit that this application is in condition for allowance.

In the reasons for allowance of claim 22, however, the Examiner paraphrases the claim language. For example, the term “sputtering” is not recited in claim 22. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 22 is allowable based on its own language, and not based on any paraphrasing or addition of language that may be made by the Examiner.

4. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER



Bhaskar Kakarla
Registration No. 54,627

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